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Bangalore Mirror

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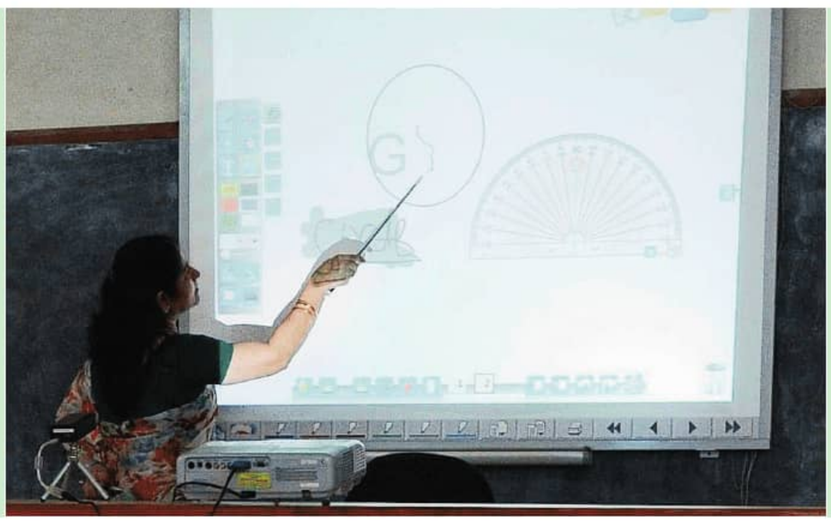

ABSENT TEACHER

64% of teaching posts, 69% non-teaching posts remain vacant across Karnataka's public universities

PAGE 2

SORE SITE

Vacant site in residential area turns mini landfill, becomes dumping spot for all types of waste

PAGE 4

2,821 two-wheelers were stolen in city till August this year, which is an average of 11 thefts every day. Despite CCTV network, thieves are making light work of whisking away vehicles parked outside houses, malls, public spaces

THERE GOES YOUR RIDE

Bengaluru accounts for 47% of all bike thefts in state

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Bengaluru has once again lived up to its tag as the vehicle theft capital, with shocking numbers coming to light. According to official data, as many as 2,821 two-wheeler theft cases were registered in the city between January 1 and August 31 this year, translating to an average of more than 11 thefts every single day. In just eight months, Bengaluru alone has contributed to nearly 47% of all two-wheeler thefts across Karnataka.

The number of vehicle registrations in Bengaluru continues to rise each day, and so do theft cases. According to the State Crime Records Bureau, 5,303 cases were registered across Karnataka up to the end of July. On average, around 700 vehicles go missing every month in the state. Of these, nearly 350 two-wheelers are reported stolen in Bengaluru alone, making them the most common target despite the city's extensive CCTV network.

The surge in thefts has become

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

PAGE 3: VEHICLE BOOM

> "Two-wheeler thieves are often repeat offenders. They scout for vulnerable parking zones and strike during night hours or when the owners are at workplaces for long hours
>
> — Police official

Laughter is the best medicine?

From stern warnings to sarcasm, police use humour to get their message through

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The Bengaluru City Police's social media presence has taken a sharp turn in recent times, from issuing routine advisories to adopting the language of the internet. Beyond stern warnings, the department now communicates through memes, witty one-liners, sarcasm, and even popular Kannada songs to drive home messages on civic issues.

A recent tweet on road rage is a case in point. "Road rage won't get you anywhere, except into trouble," the post declared, warning that brandishing weapons, damaging vehicles, or engaging in violence are punishable offences. Citizens were reminded to dial 112 if they witnessed such acts. The caution was firm, but the packaging, paired with trending visuals and sharp captions, carried a clear subtext of mockery aimed at offenders.

This style of communication, blending official warning with internet humour, has struck a chord online. Videos and graphics released by the police often feel less like dry public notices and more like cultural commentary, with offenders being "trolled" for their reckless choices. For instance, road safety advisories have been paired with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Jazzy twist

Windmills presents an evening where Carnatic tradition meets the improvisational spirit of jazz and the raw soul of blues with 'Blues for Saraswathi' taking the audience on a journey across genres, moods, and traditions. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: September 12 and 13, 7 pm (Seating begins at 6.30 pm)**

02 Mythic muse

Museum of Art & Photography (MAP) is organising 'In Celestial Company', an exhibition featuring sculptures, textiles, brass figurines, paintings, chariots, and wooden artefacts where the oft-ignored celestial beings who accompany and carry the pantheon are the centrepiece. **Where: Museum of Art & Photography, Ashok Nagar; When: Opening September 13**

03 Its catwalk time

The Feline Club of India is organising 'Championship Cat Show' with participation from across the country. The event also has a mega-exhibition by various pet brands, a fun activity zone and cat adoption, along with other treats. **Where: Jayamahal Convention Centre; When: September 21, 11 am**

04 Lit happens

Bhartiya Mall of Bengaluru is all set to transport visitors into a boundless universe of stories, ideas, and creativity, where imagination breathes through every page, conversation, and corner through their upcoming 'The Big Bangalore Book Fest'. **Where: Bhartiya Mall of Bengaluru, Thanisandra Main Road; When: September 11 to 28**

05 Sonic saga

Dark Light, one of the city's most dynamic music bands, will be performing a tribute to Linkin Park, celebrating the band's iconic music that has defined a generation. **Where: Indian Craft Brewery, Nagawara; When: September 13, 8 pm**

64–69% posts vacant in state universities, hitting quality of education

Education Department report shows staggering number of staff vacancies in public universities across Karnataka highlighting urgent need for intervention

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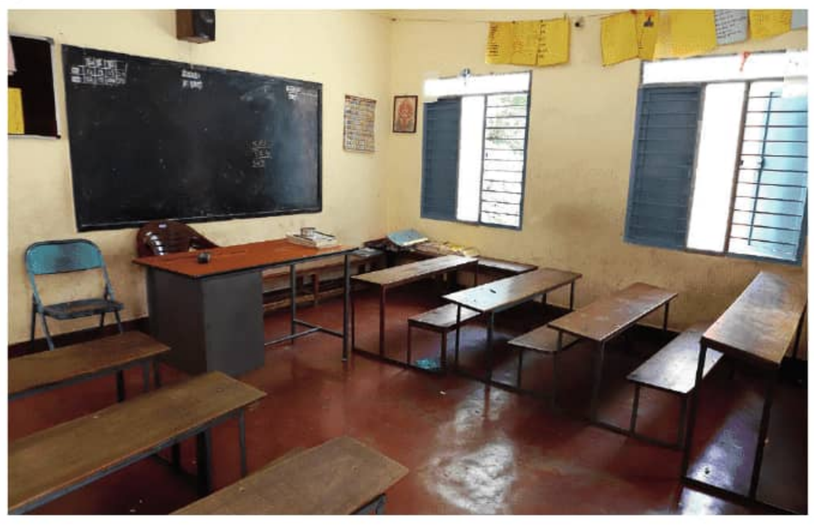

A recent report by the Department of Higher Education has revealed that 64 per cent of teaching posts and 69 per cent of non-teaching posts remain vacant across Karnataka's public universities, severely affecting the quality of education and administration. While guest lecturers have been appointed in place of permanent faculty, the arrangement has been found to be irregular and poorly managed.

In recent report, Department of Higher Education urges filling vacant posts, redeploying faculty and staff based on institutional needs, and optimising human resources for efficiency

3,000 teaching posts vacant

Karnataka has 32 public universities with 4,705 sanctioned teaching posts, of which only 1,705 (36 per cent) are filled. The remaining 3,000 (64 per cent) are vacant. Instead of filling these with permanent professors, the government has appointed 3,821 guest lecturers — an excess of 1,203 compared to sanctioned vacancies. At the same time, universities face shortages, with 415 posts still uncovered. For example, Mysore University has 391 sanctioned teaching vacancies but employs 529 guest lecturers, meaning 138 are surplus.

Non-teaching staff shortage

The crisis extends to non-teaching staff as well. Out of 9,107 sanctioned posts, only 2,818 are filled, leaving 6,289 (69 per cent) vacant. This shortage has increased the workload of existing staff, undermining administrative efficiency. Some newly established universities, including Mandya University, Gangubai Hangal Music University, Kannada University, Dr BR Ambedkar University, Nripatunga University, and Hassan, Chamarajanagar, Bidar, Koppal, Kodagu, Bagalkot, and Haveri universities, have sanctioned posts but none filled yet.

'Government must act'

"Teaching and non-teaching staff shortages are directly impacting quality education. We have repeatedly urged the government to fill vacancies. A consultation on the status of universities and the State Education Policy is planned later this month, and we will once again press for action," said Dr Chandrashekhar Shetty, President, State Retired Vice-Chancellors' Forum.

The way forward

The report suggests filling vacant posts, redeploying faculty and staff where needed, and ensuring better use of human resources. Without urgent intervention, both teaching standards and administrative functioning in state universities may further deteriorate.

D Pharm allotment, counselling shifted to KEA

From the academic year 2025–26, the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) will handle the counselling and seat allotment for D Pharm courses in both government and private quota seats, based on merit. Until now, government quota seats for D Pharm were managed manually by the Examination Board in coordination with the Government College of Pharmacy. However, due to inefficiencies — with only around 800 out of 4,000 seats being filled — and a lack of clarity in the manual process, the Health and Family Welfare Department has officially directed KEA to take over. KEA, equipped with better technology and a transparent system, already manages B Pharm, M Pharm, and Pharm-D admissions and is expected to improve the D Pharm allotment process significantly. **— BMB**

Engineering seat bonanza in CET third round

Students are enjoying a wide range of options even in the third round of seat allotment, with over 21,000 engineering seats still available for selection. The process, conducted by the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA), saw students opting out of earlier allotments to try their luck again. Alongside engineering, 3,759 nursing, 452 architecture, and 88 Pharm-D seats remain. The deadline for choice entry was September 9, and final allotment results will be announced soon. Notably, 5,149 students chose not to participate, while 6,841 students surrendered earlier seats. However, KEA has clarified that students who don't get a seat in this round will exit the CET process without any allotment. **— BMB**

OC clearance for small plots under 2024 rules

The state government has issued a significant order benefiting residents within Greater Bengaluru by allowing easier occupancy certificate (OC) clearance for smaller residential plots. For layouts up to 1,200 sq ft (roughly 30x40 ft), construction of ground plus two floors, or steel structures with up to three floors, can now obtain OC permissions smoothly under the new 2024 regulations. This comes after last year's introduction of the 'Nambike Naksha' (Trust Map) system, which fast-tracks approval of housing plans up to 4,000 sq ft within 15 days.

The revised rules aim to grant occupancy certificates for small-scale developments more transparently, addressing a long-standing issue where buildings constructed without OCs were denied essential services like water, electricity, and sewage connections following Supreme Court orders. This had affected millions, leaving many without basic amenities. The Urban Development Department has directed the Greater Bengaluru Development Authority to strengthen administrative mechanisms to ensure effective monitoring and enforcement of city planning laws going forward. **— BMB**

Shocking rise in heart disease among school children

A worrying trend has emerged from health screenings conducted under the National Child Health Programme (Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram), revealing that heart ailments are increasingly being detected in school children across Karnataka. Out of 4.45 lakh children screened during 2024–25, 9,182 were found to have congenital or acquired heart conditions. Of these, 8,124 have been referred for further treatment, and 273 have already undergone surgery. Experts warn that undetected heart disease can hinder a child's growth and development, and early diagnosis is critical. Districts like Belagavi reported the highest number of cases (1,514), followed by Uttara Kannada, Koppal, Kalaburagi, and Tumakuru. Doctors cite causes such as congenital defects, lifestyle changes, poor maternal healthcare, academic stress, and junk food consumption as contributing factors. Health officials emphasise that routine screenings and early intervention are key to preventing severe outcomes in children. **— BMB**

'India Rising' to return for second edition

Vidyashilp University is bringing back its flagship event 'India Rising: Aspiring Undergrads Summit', for its second edition on September 13, 2025, at Prestige Falcon Towers.

Following a packed debut in 2024, the summit has quickly become a marquee platform for students, parents, and educators to engage with global perspectives and Indian expertise on one of the most pressing questions faced by students: India vs abroad — where should the next generation pursue their undergraduate dreams?

This year's edition promises sharper debates, deeper insights, and more interactive sessions. The day will begin with a keynote address by Prof Partha Ray, Director of the National Institute of Bank Management and former adviser to the Executive Director at the IMF, Washington DC.

A distinguished panel will follow, featuring Vishnuteerth Agnihotri, Co-Founder and Academic Director of GenWise, Sajan Poovayya, senior advocate, Supreme Court of India, Namita Mehta, President, The Red Pen, and Dr Chandan Gowda, Dean, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Vidyashilp University, moderated by Dr Tania Islam, assistant professor, Vidyashilp University. Select panelists will also serve as jury members for student contests.

Adding energy to the summit is 'Innovators' Junction', a student-led contest focused on interdisciplinary problem-solving, alongside creative workshops and a showcase of Bengaluru's brightest young talent. **— BMB**

City buying vehicles like there's no tomorrow

With over 58,000 new vehicles added in August alone, experts warn city's traffic gridlock could worsen without sustainable city planning

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Bengaluru witnessed nearly a 20% surge in private vehicle registrations this August compared with April 2025, the start of the financial year. Transport Department data reveals almost 59,000 new two-wheelers and cars were added to city roads last month, marking the highest monthly addition of private vehicles recorded so far in the 2025–26 fiscal year.

This year is also witnessing an upward trend in the monthly registration of new private vehicles in Bengaluru. While 49,166 two-wheelers and cars were registered in April, this went up to 50,311 in May, followed by 53,394 new private vehicles registered in June, 51,595 in July 58,913 vehicles in August.

With this, the total number of private two-wheelers and cars in the city currently stands at more than 1.06 crore. This includes nearly 23.84 lakh private cars and 82.83 lakh two-wheelers. Moreover, the city's vehicular population stands at over 1.21 crore as of August 31, 2025, and nearly 88% of these are private two-wheelers and cars.

Mobility experts have expressed concerns that Bengaluru is likely to become a permanently gridlocked city.

"The population is rising rapidly, but mass transit infrastructure is developing far too slowly. Bus numbers haven't increased, so everyone buys private vehicles. Bengaluru probably has the worst person-to-vehicle ratio in the world, leading to severe traffic congestion. All this stems from the city's unplanned development," said Sandeep Anirudhan, a city-based civic activist.

Experts say this is a consequence of the government's failure to build planning capacity, or mechanisms for planning, as per the 74th Amendment of the Constitution. If the state government does not reset its direction immediately and move towards a planned approach to development, the situation will worsen for Bengaluru till the city collapses.

Long lines of private vehicles highlight city's inadequate mass transit options and planning

> **The government must empower planning bodies like the Metropolitan Planning Committee with experts and specialists to create data-driven master plans for the city's sustainable future**
>
> –Sandeep Anirudhan, civic activist

"The state government needs to immediately empower the planning authority, the Metropolitan Planning Committee, and the District Planning Committees, and capacitate them with specialists, such as urban planners, transport planners, sociologists, economists, etc., so that they may build vision plans and Master plans for the city, based on scientific data and meticulous planning," added Anirudhan.

Experts say projects such as the double-decker flyover project between JP Nagar and Hebbal and the tunnel road from Hebbal to Silk Board should be dropped, and the decision makers must consider scientific data and evidence along with experts' opinions regarding measures to ensure holistic and sustainable development of the city.

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Vehicle thief can pull that stunt no more

Siddapura police have arrested a 24-year-old man who stole two-wheelers across Bengaluru to perform wheelies and post videos on social media. The accused, Salim Pasha of Wilson Garden, was caught near Tank Garden in Someshwara Nagar. Police seized 20 stolen two-wheelers and an autorickshaw worth 18 lakh.

The case began after a complaint about a bike stolen from RV Teachers' Colony in Jayanagar. During interrogation, Pasha confessed he broke handle locks to steal bikes, used them for stunts, and abandoned them in vacant plots to avoid suspicion. He even lived inside an autorickshaw instead of returning home.

Vehicles were recovered from Gundappa Koli Geri, Pump House, Wilson Garden, and Vinayaka Nagar. Police said his arrest has helped solve at least 18 vehicle theft cases registered in stations including KR Puram, Wilson Garden, Ashoknagar, Adugodi, Kengeri, DJ Halli, Kumbalgodu, Tilak Nagar, Byatarayanapura, Chamarajpet, Jayanagar, and Peenya. **–BMB**

'Missing MLA' posters crop up in Jayanagar

Frustrated over the poor state of roads, residents and youth in Jayanagar staged a unique protest by putting up 'Missing MLA' posters and marking potholes across the locality. Locals said potholes have plagued the area's roads for nearly two years, causing daily inconvenience and accidents. Some stretches were patched up ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent visit for the Yellow Line inauguration, but residents alleged the repairs were superficial and short-lived.

"Every road here is filled with potholes. Authorities keep saying the tender project is incomplete, but that cannot be an excuse forever," residents said. They urged civic officials to stop delaying and immediately take steps to fix the battered roads. **–BMB**

Revisit needed on outdated senior maintenance cap of ₹10K

The Karnataka High Court has urged the Union Government to revisit Section 9 of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, which caps monthly maintenance at 10,000. The ceiling, unchanged since the Act came into effect on December 29, 2007, has failed to keep pace with inflation and the rising cost of living.

Justice M Nagaprasanna, while passing the order, observed that unless revised, the provision risks reducing the law to a "hollow promise" rather than a guarantee of dignity in old age. The judge stressed that India's progress must be measured not just in material terms but by the care extended to its elderly.

The law empowers Tribunals to order children or relatives to pay maintenance, but sub-section (2) of Section 9 restricts the allowance to 10,000, a limit States cannot exceed. Though the Act was amended in 2019, this ceiling remained unchanged. A Bill introduced in Parliament the same year had sought to remove the cap, but it was never enacted.

Citing inflation data, the bench noted that what 100 could buy in 2007 now requires nearly 1,000. "Prices of food, shelter and medicine have soared, but the statutory cap stands frozen in time," the order stated.

The court directed that its observations be placed before the Ministry of Finance through the Additional Solicitor General, recommending an upward revision. It warned that "relief which is illusory is no relief at all." **–BMB**

'Sexual assault on minor by married man unpardonable act'

The Karnataka High Court has observed that sexual assault on a minor girl by a married man is an unpardonable act warranting strict action. Justice S Rachaiah made this remark while rejecting the bail plea of Chandrappa, who faces charges under the Indian Penal Code, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

The Court underlined that the victim belonged to a Scheduled Caste community, making her particularly vulnerable to exploitation. Stressing the need for accountability, the bench noted that such crimes demand a firm judicial stance both to safeguard women and children from weaker sections and to send a strong signal to society.

The case traces back to July 27, 2022, when the girl went missing on her way to school. Police later located her and recorded her statement. She alleged that Chandrappa, known to her, abducted her near a village drainage, took her to a mango grove, and sexually assaulted her before leaving her to work at a roadside dhaba. A week later, she was allegedly assaulted again, and the accused accepted money from another individual to employ her as labour at the dhaba. The girl eventually managed to call her cousin using a customer's phone, following which the police rescued her.

The defence pointed to inconsistencies in her statements and referred to her previous history of leaving home. However, the prosecution maintained that the evidence showed grave sexual and economic exploitation. Agreeing with this view, the Court refused Chandrappa's plea, describing his conduct as "unpardonable." **–BMB**

Pulakeshinagar site becomes mini landfill, schools face danger

Frustrated locals accuse civic officials of inaction as dumping spirals out of control

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Pedestrians forced to walk on roads as footpaths remain blocked with garbage

Residents, schoolchildren, and pedestrians on Davis Road in Sagayapuram ward, Pulakeshinagar Assembly constituency, have been facing numerous problems due to a vacant site that has become a dumping ground for all types of waste. With no proper upkeep, the site, which spreads over 40,000 sq ft, has turned into a mini-landfill with rubbish including old and dirty couches, broken commodes, and chicken waste.

Residents of Sunbeam Apartments, Golden Crescent, Nagarjuna, Elegant Orchid, as well as nuns and students from St. Alphonsus High School and Holy Convent, have been running from pillar to post in search of a solution to this perennial problem, but in vain. They submitted a letter to Pulakeshinagar MLA AC Srinivasa on July 25 seeking a solution. It is learnt the MLA assured them he would direct the BBMP (now Bengaluru Central City Corporation) engineers to erect a barrier around the site to prevent waste dumping. However, the engineers are yet to act, for reasons best known to them. For now, they have merely erected a fabric barrier on one side of the site.

"Pedestrians, especially school children and senior citizens, find it difficult to walk as rubbish is dumped on the footpath. The garbage often spills onto the road, making it difficult for pedestrians to pass," said a sister from Holy Convent. She complained that some irresponsible people have been using the vacant land as an open toilet. "It is nauseating to come across such scenes where people with no common sense relieve themselves here. I appeal to the elected representatives and the authorities concerned to ensure cleanliness," she said, adding that the abandoned site, now overgrown with weeds, has become a breeding ground for mosquitoes and snakes.

Expressing concern about the appalling condition of the site, a resident, speaking on condition of anonymity, said she had been living there for more than two decades. "The site has remained unoccupied all these years. The dumping of rubbish has increased over the past two

Despite petitions and assurances, a 40,000 sq ft plot on Davis Road continues to fester with waste, posing dangers to schoolchildren, elderly pedestrians and nearby residents

years. We have been complaining to the authorities. They send workers to remove the waste, but the site returns to its former state as soon as it is cleaned. We want a permanent solution," she said.

According to Zaffar Sait, a long-time resident of Richards Town whose family moved into the area in 1955, the land has been lying vacant ever since. "The GBA Estate/Legal and the Revenue Department will be aware of this parcel of land, and they need to pursue the matter and take ownership of it. The current market value of this plot, which is around 30,000 sq ft in area, will not be less than Rs 60 crore," he said.

Meanwhile, Pulakeshinagar Executive Engineer and Nodal Officer Thippeswamy said he had arranged for the site to be cleaned four to five times till date. "One person claiming ownership of the land threatened to file a case against me for trespassing. I have directed the Assistant Revenue Officer to impose a penalty on the owner for not keeping the site clean," he said.

However, Pulakeshinagar MLA AC Srinivasa was unavailable for comment.

Association counters discrimination claims, points to safety incidents and community welfare

Council points to car crash, substance seizures and noisy parties as reasons for stricter measures

The Brigade Panorama Owners' Association has dismissed tenants' allegations of discrimination and said that there had been incidents which required attention and action, while clarifying the rationale behind the rules.

BM's September 8 report highlighted tenants' allegations of bias and demand for impartial treatment. The members said that Brigade Panorama has long been home to many student and bachelor tenants who have coexisted with resident families. However, they added, there have been incidents warranting intervention. "For instance, a car

Following allegations of discrimination, the owners' committee said charges for gym use and delivery curbs were introduced to protect residents' welfare, adding that past incidents had forced them to act.

park accident occurred where a pair of bachelor tenants crashed their luxury vehicle into three others. The association had to pursue justice through the police on behalf of the car owners who suffered damages," said Balaji Balasubramanian, Secretary, Brigade Panorama Owners' Association (2024–25).

Bangalore Mirror
Tenants allege discrimination, demand impartial treatment

BM's Sept 8 report highlighted tenants' allegations of bias and demand for impartial treatment

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Brigade Panorama Owners' Association members clarified that amenity charges and rules aim to ensure fair use of facilities

The association further alleged that it has been receiving frequent calls from Kumbalagudu Police Station about students found in possession of banned substances.

It also pointed to numerous reports of parties and nuisance activities that caused distress to residents, who endured them quietly despite repeated complaints to the association. Delivery restrictions during night hours were therefore introduced to prevent untoward incidents and safeguard the society's well-being.

Pointing out the issue of the tenant charges for indoor amenities, Balasubramanaian said, "The charges mentioned were approved in a General Body Meeting and are currently under legal proceedings. The tenure of the current association is coming to an end, with elections scheduled for September 28, 2025. The charges apply specifically to the gym, where free access has led to overcrowding, making it difficult for rightful users to enjoy the facilities. Every society has the right to safeguard its assets and ensure residents' welfare by implementing rules that benefit the community as a whole."

With respect to maintenance, the members added that many societies levy differential charges for tenants and owners. — BMB

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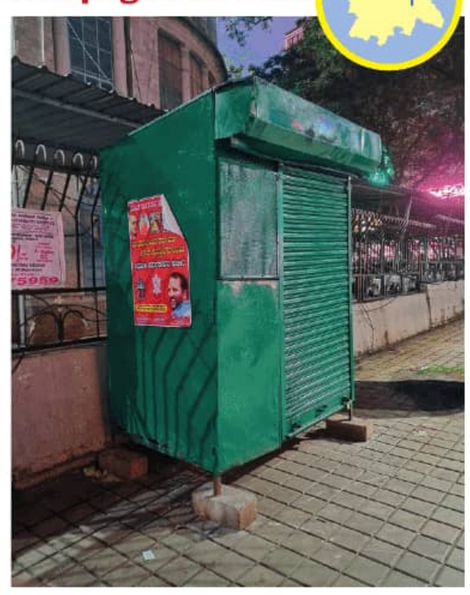
Playground hazard
Frazer Town

Rubble at the bottom of a slide in Coles Park poses a potential safety risk for children.

Illegal shops
Kempegowda Road



Unauthorised box shops have reportedly reopened on Kempegowda Road, prompting demands for immediate action against them.

Drain danger
Basavanagudi

A broken drain cover on Bull Temple Road, Basavanagudi, next to the BSNL office is at risk of collapsing and requires urgent repair.

B'luru third among India's megacities in suicide cases

As K'taka reports high suicide rates, NIMHANS' USHAS project demonstrates prevention is possible through structured follow-ups and early intervention

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Karnataka continues to face a troubling public health crisis as its suicide rate (20.2%) far exceeds the national average of 12.4%, according to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) 2022 data. The state records 13,606 suicides annually, with Bengaluru ranking third among India's megacities in reported cases.

The issue came into focus as the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) observed World Suicide Prevention Day and marked the first anniversary of its Suicide Prevention, Research, Implementation, Training and Engagement Centre (N-SPRITE). The centre leads multiple suicide prevention initiatives in collaboration with the Karnataka government.

Among these, the USHAS (Urban Self-Harm Study) project has delivered promising results. It targets individuals admitted to public hospitals following suicide attempts and provides structured follow-up care. "More than 10% of those who attempt self-harm can die by suicide, making timely support critical. Under USHAS, re-attempts have been reduced to negligible levels through sustained handholding," said NIMHANS Director Dr Pratima Murthy.

Health experts documenting cases in self-harm registry at NIMHANS

The findings highlight that among the youth, women-specific health issues such as dysmenorrhea, premenstrual disorders (PMS, PMDD), and postpartum challenges are prominent triggers for suicide attempts

Dr Anish V Cherian, Additional Professor and Lead at N-SPRITE, highlighted gaps in conventional approaches. Most survivors initially resort to home remedies, and only 40–50% reach hospitals. Many leave within an hour, while 11–50% refuse further care, significantly raising risks. Limited psychoeducation, absence of personalised safety plans, and poor attention to psychosocial factors further compound the problem.

To address these gaps, USHAS provides follow-ups from one week to 60 months. Since 2022, it has reduced the re-attempt rate to 1.19% and deaths to 0.2%. The programme operates in 16 public hospitals across 11 districts, including KC General, Victoria, Bowring, Lady Curzon, and Jayanagar General.

Data shows the highest-risk group is youth aged 25–39 (44.37%), followed by 18–24 (28.87%). Men account for 55.76% of cases, women 44.15%, and transgender persons 0.09%. Substance use is a significant factor.

NIMHANS experts emphasised that while numbers remain high, systematic intervention, early follow-up, and policy support can save lives. "These are not just statistics—they represent lives safeguarded through structured care," they said.

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Commissioner orders removal of abandoned vehicles

Bengaluru Central Corporation Commissioner Rajendra Cholan has directed officials to identify and list abandoned or ownerless vehicles within the Central City limits and submit the report to the traffic police division. During an inspection across Shivajinagar Assembly Constituency, he noted that long-abandoned vehicles obstruct traffic flow, necessitating swift removal.

At the auto tipper mustering center near Mount Carmel, Vasanth Nagar, Cholan interacted with drivers and staff of 22 autos and 5 compactors, instructing them to use safety gear and ensure proper operations. He also said that hotels and commercial establishments maintain cleanliness around their premises, warning of penalties for violations and ordering notices for offenders.

The Commissioner further instructed fines against builders who dump debris on footpaths, damaging public property. Roads within 200 meters of major junctions must be kept free of potholes and levelled for smooth traffic movement. Noting long-term vehicle parking on Miller Tank Bund Road and Jasmaa Devi Bhavan Road (near KSBA, KBA), he proposed implementing a Pay and Park system. **–BMB**

Student sexually assaulted in Bengaluru school hostel

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An incident of sexual assault has been reported at a private school hostel under the Bannerghatta police limits on the outskirts of Bengaluru. Police said a Class 10 student, who had recently joined the hostel, was allegedly subjected to ragging and assault by a group of senior second PUC students. On Tuesday, the hostel warden was arrested for failing to act on the repeated complaints made by the victim and for negligence in preventing the abuse.

According to police, the boy was harassed between August 3 and August 6. Initially, he brought the matter to the attention of the hostel warden and school principal. However, instead of addressing the issue effectively, the authorities merely warned the accused students. The harassment escalated, leading to allegations of sexual assault. Officials stated that the boy was stripped, forced to dance, humiliated, and attacked with a cloth hanger.

The incident came to light when the boy confided in his parents, who subsequently approached the Bannerghatta police and lodged a complaint on Monday. They alleged that the school authorities ignored their son's grievances, aggravating his distress.

Based on the complaint, police registered a case against five second PUC students, the hostel warden, and the school principal. Charges have been filed under provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act for negligence and failure to safeguard the child. Police confirmed that the hostel warden has been arrested while further investigations are underway. **–BMB**

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The detailed advertisement and application link will be hosted on BEML Career page (www.bemlindia.in) after 12.9.2025.

NGT notice has put spanner in ₹19,000-cr tunnel project works

Citizen's petition exposes flawed project report, ecological threats, policy violations, as Green Tribunal questions state's rush behind controversial tunnel project

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Independent studies suggest the tunnel will increase vehicle emissions, shifting transport from public to private modes, and exacerbating climate vulnerabilities in the city

Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D K Shivakumar's ambitious Tunnel Road project has hit a roadblock.

Following a petition filed by a city-based citizens' group and others against the proposed project, the Southern Bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has issued notices to multiple government agencies, asking them to file their responses.

At the first hearing held on September 10, the Green Court directed that notices be served to the State Government, Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Bangalore Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), and the project consultants.

The petition, filed by Bengaluru Praja Vedike and other concerned citizens, pointed to several flaws in the Detailed Project Report (DPR). They argued that the document is riddled with factual errors, incomplete annexures, and the absence of critical studies such as site-specific geological surveys, hydrological and flood-risk mapping, biodiversity assessments, and tree enumeration.

The petitioners further alleged that the traffic modelling is deeply flawed as it excludes major vehicle categories, underestimates emissions, and still admits that key junctions will remain at the worst congestion levels.

Petition alleges document has factual errors and its traffic modelling is flawed as it excludes major vehicle categories, underestimates emissions, while admitting that key junctions will remain congested

The State Cabinet had approved the construction of a 16.74 km twin-tube tunnel from Hebbal to Silk Board at an estimated cost of ₹19,000 crore on May 22. Soon after, a Special Purpose Vehicle named B-SMILE was created, and Rodic Consultants prepared the DPR in less than three months. Petitioners claim this hurried exercise followed the budget announcement in May 2024 and lacked credible technical assessments or support from the Comprehensive Mobility Plan 2020.

"The proposal, politically driven from inception, was pushed despite two failed Expressions of Interest and later retrofitted into a feasibility study through procedural manoeuvring. Moreover, the tunnel alignment cuts through ecologically sensitive and legally protected areas, including the Peninsular Gneiss at Lal Bagh, Hebbal Valley's stormwater corridor, and the critically polluted Peenya Industrial Area. These zones face serious risks of groundwater depletion, soil instability, and aggravated flooding," the petition noted.

The plea also cited independent studies, including those from the Indian Institute of Science, warning that the project would shift commuters from public to private transport, raise fossil fuel use and exhaust emissions, and worsen climate vulnerabilities.

Statutory bodies such as the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) have already confirmed that the project contradicts Bengaluru's mobility and climate policies, instead recommending alternative solutions. Despite this, the petitioners alleged, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process was bypassed and public consultation ignored.

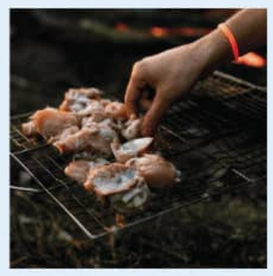
They argued that the project's redundancy is underscored by the proposed Metro corridor along the same alignment, which they say offers a more sustainable, accessible, and environmentally sound alternative for Bengaluru's transport future.

Meat ban around Tumakuru temple to be lifted

ThThe Karnataka High Court on Wednesday recorded the State Government's assurance that it will withdraw a police notice prohibiting both animal sacrifice and the consumption of non-vegetarian food around Sri Honneshwara Deity temple at Shivanagere village in Tumakuru district.

The government clarified that a revised directive will be issued within a week, restricting only animal sacrifice within the temple precincts, without curbs on consumption of meat. Justice B M Shyam Prasad disposed of a writ petition filed by the Honneshwaraswamy Devasthana Jeernodhara Seva Samithi Trust (R), which had challenged the July 13, 2024 notice by local police imposing a 200-meter ban on both practices.

During the hearing, government counsel submitted: "We will issue a fresh notice today itself to indicate that prohibition applies only to animal sacrifice within the temple precincts, and there is no restriction on consumption." The police had relied on an earlier High Court order while issuing the notice, but the bench clarified that the cited order was not a binding adjudication.



The petitioner trust argued that devotees, who travel from across Karnataka and neighbouring states, have long prepared both vegetarian and non-vegetarian food in kitchens and dining halls constructed outside the sanctum. While they had no objection to curbs on sacrifice, they opposed restrictions on consumption, saying it infringed on personal choice and disrupted local customs.

The bench reiterated that neither the Karnataka Prevention of Animal Sacrifices Act nor the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act prohibits meat consumption. Taking the State's assurance on record, the court disposed of the petition. **–BMB**

Organised gangs have specific targets identified

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a growing concern for commuters, particularly as two-wheelers remain the primary mode of transport for Bengalureans navigating the city's congested roads. Incidents have been reported across all eight divisions of the city, with the East, North, and West zones recording the highest number of cases.

Police officials attribute the surge to organised gangs that specifically target bikes parked outside houses, paying guest accommodation entrances, apartments and the vehicle owners who in an attempt to avoid parking charges, park their two-wheelers near malls, metro stations, bus stands and other public spaces. In many cases, stolen vehicles are dismantled and sold for spare parts in neighbouring districts, while some are trafficked to other states, while some are used to facilitate other criminal activities including smuggling, robberies and even violent crimes.

"Two-wheeler theft is one of the biggest challenges in metropolitan areas. These criminals are often repeat offenders. They scout for vulnerable parking zones and strike during night hours or when the owners are at workplaces for long hours," a senior officer said.

Low recovery rate

Even though there are cases where police officials have recovered vehicles from empty sites and other places, the detection rate, however, continues to remain a concern. Police cite difficulties in tracing vehicles once they are moved out of the city or dismantled. If it is a new vehicle, stolen bikes are sold in rural areas at low price so that detection becomes difficult or they are listed on online platforms for resale.

The alarming figures also highlight the lack of basic preventive measures taken by many vehicle owners. Police say a majority of thefts occur when two-wheelers are parked without additional locks or security systems. "Simple steps like using handle locks, installing wheel clamps, or even parking in well-lit areas can make a big difference. Owners must also install GPS-based tracking devices wherever possible," the officer added.

On average, around 700 vehicles go missing every month in the state

Citizen power triumphs as 15,000 voices rally to bag heritage tag

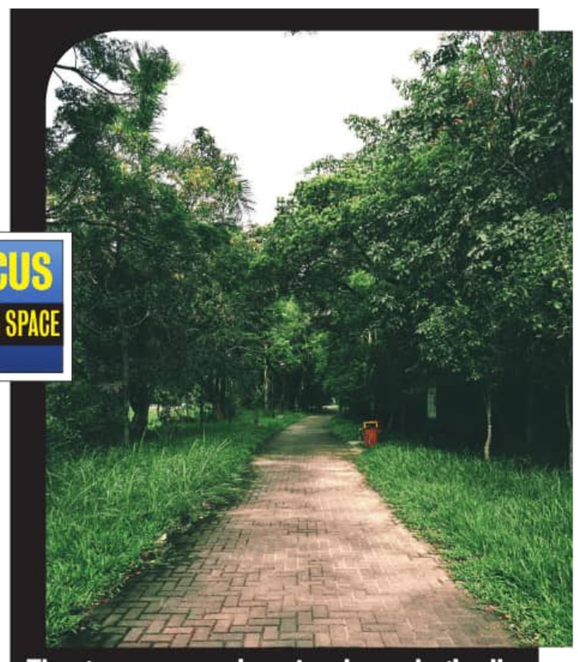
Green space secured: Board declares 8.61-acre Cantonment Railway Colony campus as biodiversity heritage site

In a special meeting of the Karnataka Biodiversity Board (KBB) chaired by Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre on September 10 (Wednesday), the 8.61-acre area of the Cantonment Railway Colony campus was declared a Biodiversity Heritage Site (BHS).

INFOCUS URBAN LUNG SPACE

The decision came after overwhelming support from citizens who rallied to preserve the green space. Officials noted that the declaration was made under Section 37 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002, to ensure long-term protection of this urban ecosystem for present and future generations. Section 37 empowers the State Government to declare certain areas as Biodiversity Heritage Sites. According to guidelines issued by the Centre, areas with unique biological systems, rare and endangered species, indigenous breeds, or high levels of endemism may qualify as BHS.

In this case, the Cantonment campus was chosen for its ecological value, historical significance, and cultural importance. The space not only supports diverse green cover but also serves as a crucial lung space for Bengaluru, which is struggling with rising air pollution and shrinking greenery.



The green space is not only ecologically important but also holds cultural and aesthetic significance for the city

KBB had earlier issued a public notice inviting suggestions, objections, and opinions from the public. In response, thousands of residents voiced support to protect the 371 trees on the site, which were earlier proposed to be felled by the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for commercial purposes.

The Board highlighted that the trees act as a natural shield against air and dust pollution, absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen essential for community health. Declaring the site as a BHS, Khandre said the move acknowledged not only its ecological value but also its cultural and ethical significance. "This green space is important for its ecological value, but equally for its cultural, ethical, and aesthetic importance in a rapidly urbanising city. It stands as a heritage site of colonial-era development and is also linked to Mahatma Gandhi, who interacted with freedom fighters here," Khandre observed.

Citizen involvement proved decisive in the declaration. Around 15,000 people supported the move through petitions, online campaigns, and emails. More than 3,000 citizens signed one online petition, while another digital campaign drew over 10,600 supporters; 972 people wrote directly to the government via email, urging it to protect the trees and the site. Several physical petitions carrying hundreds of signatures were also submitted.

Officials said the strong public response demonstrated the community's commitment to safeguarding urban biodiversity and heritage. —BMB

INBRIEF

MLCs tell CM their letters, pleas being ignored

Congress MLCs have expressed deep dissatisfaction to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, stating that their letters and requests are being ignored, with some ministers not even responding to calls. In a meeting at Vidhana Soudha on Tuesday, they demanded that at least four ministerial berths be reserved for Legislative Council members and that they receive special development grants like MLAs. Several MLCs voiced frustration over ministers' apathy, citing denied appointments and indifferent treatment. Responding, CM Siddaramaiah assured them he would direct ministers to be more responsive. Currently, only one MLC holds a ministerial post, and members urged consideration for more during the next cabinet reshuffle. The CM acknowledged their demand for ₹50 crore in development funds and promised to review it, stressing his commitment to regional development and better delivery of guarantee schemes. BMB

Farmers dump crops amid price crash

On Bengaluru's outskirts, unsold flowers lie scattered roadside, highlighting the severe crisis facing farmers. Unseasonal rains and plummeting market prices have forced flower, banana, and onion growers to abandon their produce. In Chikkaballapur, marigold, chrysanthemum, and rose are being discarded in bulk, with prices dropping to ₹1–10 per kg. In Hanur taluk, Chamarajanagar, banana prices have fallen so drastically that farmers watch helplessly as fruits rot in the fields. Farmer Kumaraswamy, who invested nearly ₹5 lakh in banana cultivation, is now ploughing the spoiled crop back into the soil. In Koppal, onion prices have collapsed, forcing farmers to let livestock graze harvested fields. Farmers are urging the government to intervene urgently to prevent further losses. BMB

AROUNDTHEWORLD

Kathmandu airport reopens; security heightened

The Nepal Civil Aviation Authority announced on Wednesday that Kathmandu's Tribhuvan International Airport will reopen from today, ending the suspension of flights imposed due to adverse circumstances. In an official statement, the authority advised passengers to contact their airlines for flight details and to carry official tickets and identification while traveling. The resumption comes amid heightened security measures in the capital, following widespread unrest during Gen Z-led protests across Nepal. The Nepalese Army arrested 27 individuals involved in looting, arson, and other violent acts in Kathmandu and other areas. According to reports, the arrests took place between 10 pm Tuesday and 10 am Wednesday, alongside a nationwide deployment of forces. Fire trucks were also dispatched to extinguish fires set during the protests, ensuring airport and city safety. ANI

Protesters clash with police in France

Protesters clashed with police across Paris and other French cities on Wednesday, blocking roads, setting fires, and facing volleys of tear gas, putting pressure on President Emmanuel Macron and testing his new prime minister. The interior ministry reported 250 arrests in the early hours of nationwide demonstrations against budget cuts and government policies. Despite efforts to "Block Everything," the movement that began online this summer caused localized disruptions, with 80,000 police deployed to dismantle barricades and make arrests. In Rennes, a bus was

set ablaze, while in the southwest, fires damaged electrical cables, halting train services and disrupting traffic. Though significant, the unrest was less intense than past demonstrations, including the yellow vest protests of 2018–2019 and the 2023 riots following a police shooting, both of which previously challenged Macron's administration. AP

K'taka tightens grip on illegal mining

The Karnataka government has enacted a new law to strengthen action against illegal mining and recover assets obtained through unlawful means. The Karnataka Appointment of Recovery Commissioner for Seizure and Attachment of Property of Illegal Mining and Proceeds of Crime Act, 2025 was notified in the state gazette following Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot's assent on September 9. The Act allows for the appointment of a recovery commissioner, a senior officer not below additional chief secretary rank, to oversee attachment and forfeiture proceedings statewide. The commissioner can seize movable and immovable assets derived from illegal mining, supervise subordinate officers, and exercise powers equivalent to a civil court. The law also provides for provisional property attachment, government-confirmed forfeiture, appointment of asset administrators, and appellate mechanisms to ensure effective enforcement. PTI

SOCIALTATTLE

That went viral

These edits are going viral, first an auto racing concept, now Verstappen stuck at Hebbal flyover in a Bengaluru F1 circuit. The craziest part? Accurate side-mirror reflections, cars driving on the wrong side, and even cows interrupting the race. Created by @msiddique26, inspired by @HNitisvaar.

What's Tweeting

SaveBellandur(ಉಳಿಸಿಬೆಳ...
Replying to @kdevforum
Genuine and severe Pedestrian issues in Kasavanahalli. Situation is complicated since it was in Mahadevapura but now part of Bangalore South. Lawless violation of buildings, parking is getting out of hand! Help. @GBAChiefComm @GBAoffic @osd_cmkarnataka bangaloremirror.indiatimes.com/bangalore/civ...
Residential areas are overwhelmed as roads double as parking lots, commercial encroachments persist, and essential crossings are absent

A citizen brings to notice an important issue. @BLR_Stories writes: We kindly request the government to first conduct GBA/BBMP elections. It is unfortunate that citizens have to approach the DCM even for basic issues like pothole repairs. Local representatives are essential for addressing such problems effectively. #Bengaluru

Manoj nayak(montu)
@Nmanoj183
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We talk about South Indian foods like dosa idili ect.. but for me personally this is the best thing in Bengaluru. Fresh and healthy. You won't find people serving fruits in any other states.
Thank you Bengaluru ❤️❤️

Find out what @Nmanoj183 's favourite food in Bengaluru is. The X user writes: We talk about South Indian foods like dosa idili ect.. but for me personally this is the best thing in Bengaluru. Fresh and healthy. You won't find people serving fruits in any other states. Thank you Bengaluru #Bengaluru

Bangalore Mirror tagged

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We kindly request the government to first conduct GBA/BBMP elections. It is unfortunate that citizens have to approach the DCM even for basic issues like pothole repairs. Local representatives are essential for addressing such problems effectively.
#Bengaluru

A citizen writes for help as pedestrians are completely sidelined in Kasavanahalli. @kdevforum says: Genuine and severe Pedestrian issues in Kasavanahalli. Situation is complicated since it was in Mahadevapura but now part of Bangalore South. Lawless violation of buildings, parking is getting out of hand! Help. @GBAChiefComm @GBAoffic @osd_cmkarnataka @BangaloreMirror

Don't laugh all the way to jail

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

iconic Kannada film dialogues or set to catchy regional songs, instantly amplifying their reach among younger audiences.

According to officers, the approach is intentional. Traditional advisories often get lost in the clutter of social media feeds, but a meme or a sarcastic one-liner can spark conversation, shares, and even laughter, all while delivering a serious message. The goal, officials say, is to make safety communication "unmissable."

Public response to this has largely been positive. Many citizens appreciate the creativity and shareability of such posts, though some argue that presenting serious offences in a light-hearted way risks diluting their gravity. Still, the approach has undeniably boosted engagement, turning routine advisories into viral content.

The police's digital strategy now serves as an example of how enforcement agencies can harness cultural familiarity and humour to deliver critical messages. This isn't the first such experiment by the city police's social media team. Earlier, they had used Studio Ghibli-style animation to share updates on arrests, drug-related crimes, and safety alerts.

Officials confirmed that this is part of a broader initiative to use creative communication methods for public engagement.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Surjeet Kaur Resident at G-1203, Nagarjuna Medows-2, Doddabalapura Road, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560064 changed My Name from Surjit Kaur to Surjeet Kaur for all further purposes.

I, Janet Felix Anandraj & Jannet D/O Felix B Anandraj # No-302, GV Paradise, 5th Cross, Ayappa Temple Road, Near Rama temple B lore - 560075 have changed my name to Janet Felix for all purposes.

I Ammineni Lakshmi Prasanna W/O, Alla Aruna Kumar R/o 137,jade Garden,phase 2,sadahalli, Bengaluru - 562110 have changed my name to Alla Lakshmi Prasanna.

I, MOHAMED FAROOK MOHAMED ABDUL KADER S/o ABDUL KADER R/o B 201, Asian Garden 253A Mth Road Villivakkam, Tiruvallur Ambattur Tamil nadu-600049. I have changed my name to MOHAMED FAROOK vide affidavit dated: 08/09/2025 Before Notary C SHARADA Bangalore.

I, Premkumar Ravichander, S/o K Ravichandran, resident of No 411, 7th main, 9th Cross, koramangala, Rajendranagar, VTC Bangalore South, PO: Viveknagar, Sub District: Bangalore South, District: Bangalore, State: Karnataka, PIN Code:560047, have changed my surname from Premkumar Ravichander to Premkumar Ravichandran.

I, Muhammed Muthahar K.M.S/o Mubarak Ali K.S. R/a No.823,6th Cross, 4th Main Road, L.N.Colony, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560 022 have changed my name from K.M.MOHD MUTHAHAR to MUHAMMED MUTHAHAR K.M. vide affidavit dated 4-9-2025 Sworn before Notary Chandrakala, Bengaluru

Change of Name

I, Elahee Jan H/o Farzana Banu residing at Hattihalli, Beechanahalli post, Dandinashivara hobli, Turvekere Taluk, Tumkur district, stating that, my name mentioned in my wife's passport (No.M7442356) as Farzana Banu W/o Mohammed Helahi. So, I hereby request the concerned authorities to rectify the name as Farzana Banu W/o Elahee Jan. All the above information is correct and true Therefore, I have sworn before Notary and Advocate T.S.Mahanthesh, Gubbi vide affidavit dated 10.09.2025.

I Abhijeet Dhanapune r/o D-S 03, Alaya Apartments, 26 Harlur Main Road, Ambalipura, Bangalore 560102 have changed my name to Abhijeet Ashok Dhanapune

I SALEEM PASHA SYED NAZEER S/o Syed Nazeer R/o No 32 3rd Cross Someshwara Nagar Bangalore 560011 have changed my name to SALEEM PASHA for all Purposes

I, Sangita Katyal, R/o # E-1005 /MJR Clique Hydra, Gollahalli Road, Electronic City, Bengaluru-560100, have changed my name from Sangita Katyal to Sangita.

I, Nagalakshmi Nagesh W/O, Nagesh Gk R/o No 595/9 1st Main Road Raghavendra Block Srinagar Bangalore 560050 have changed my name to Nagalakshmi for all purposes.

I, Vaenkatesh B R s/o Ranganathaiah B T, R/o EWS 110 1st Main Road KHB Colony 1st Stage Basaveshwara Nagar B'luru-560079 have changed my name to Venkatesh Belaguthi Ranganathaiah for all purposes

I, Narayanaswamy S/o Venkataramappa R/o M Venkatapura (V) Kappalamadagu (P) Mulbagal (T) Kolar (D) have changed my minor son's name from Ruthik N to Mokshith N.

I, JOFFY SACHIN D/o JOY P JOHN R/o No 305 Srujana Oaks Thomas layout Hadosiddapra road Carmelaram Bangalore-560035. I have changed my name to JOFFY JOY vide affidavit dated: 08/09/2025 Before Notary B M CHANDRASHEKAR Bangalore.

I, VARSHITHA KUBASAD alias Vani B P D/o PRAKASH B N R/o Casagrand Lorenza, C Block #101, Markandhaiha Nagar, Yelahanka B'lore - 64, have changed my name from VARSHITHA SHEKHAR to Varshitha Kubasad for all future purposes vide affidavit dtd. 04-09-2025 Sworn before Notary Jalandhara, B'lore

I, Gangadara K S/o, Krishnappa R/o 6 Gokula, 3rd Floor, 1st cross, 4th main road, sapthagiri nagar, hosakerehalli, Bsk 3rd stage, bengaluru 560085. have changed my name to K Gangadhar for all purposes.

WE, MANOJ GUPTA and MONICA MANOJ GUPTA R/o Villa No 236 Prestige Augusta Golf Village Kada Agrahara road Rampura Saibaba Temple Virgonagar Bangalore-560049. Do Hereby Declare that we have changed my minor Daughter's name From KRISHA MANOJ GUPTA to KRISHA GUPTA vide affidavit dated: 08/09/2025 Before Notary C. SHARADA Bangalore.

I. B.G.Shobha Kiran W/o D.A.Gundu Rao R/o No.22/7, MGK.Murthy Layout, Chamarajpet, Bangalore -18 hereby declare that Shobha, Shobha Gundu Rao and Burli Gundu Rao Shobha Kiran all belongs to me only & appeared in my earlier records. Further my true and correct name in future will be B.G.Shobha Kiran only in all my future records, deeds, writings, proceedings, transactions private as well as upon all occasions whatsoever vide affidavit sworn before Advocate and Notary Sumithra. N. on 10.09.2025

I, Aruna Pradeep W/o Ramesh S R/o No. 37, Ward No. 02, 4th Cross, K.G.Halli, Bangalore-560015 have changed my name to Aruna Jain for all purposes

I, OMKAR SUHAS PAMPATTIWAR S/o SUHAS SHASHIKANT PAMPATTIWAR R/o A1306, Skylark Esta, near Hoodi Metro station Beside Bosch Service Centre Bengaluru - 560048. I have changed my name to ONKAR SUHASRAO PAMPATTIWAR vide affidavit dated: 08/09/2025 Before Notary C. SHARADA Bangalore.

I Sapna shivaji , R/o A - 302 BEL white square Apartments , BEL layout , 4 th block , Vidyaranyapura . Bangalore North , Bangalore 560097 have changed my Son name (minor) from Gowrish Prashanth Rao to Gowrish Sapna .

I, Umang Devanshu Pandey, R/o 102, Sandeep Square Apartment , Kadubheeshanahalli, Bellandur, Bangalore - 560103 have changed my daughter name(minor) from Dhairyaa Mishra Pandey to Maitreyi.

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- Bring all original documents
- Passport / PVC is mandatory

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Date: 13th & 15th September 2025
Timings: 9.00 am to 1.00 pm
SHIVAS GALAXY HOTEL, Down Town Park, 4 & 5, Kempegowda International Airport Road, Near Airport Toll, Near Sadahalli Gate, Bengaluru, Karnataka 562157. Call: +91 7669020101
Please carry all the original education documents - Graduation Degrees/ Provisional Degrees to be carried along with marksheets of every semester (if degree awaited) and Govt Ids along with passport & resume. ***Passport issued after October 2022 or PVC issued after 2025 is mandatory***

FEELS LIKE MASS HYSTERIA

Fear of hazardous materials brought Heathrow airport to a standstill. Here is a look at how social contagion works

Heathrow's Terminal 4 was evacuated on September 8 as fire crews were called in to investigate "possible hazardous materials" at the London airport. After a few hours of halted flights and frustrating inconvenience, emergency services declared that no "adverse substance" had been found anywhere in the airport.

People were allowed back into the terminal, and normal service was resumed. In the meantime, however, 21 people were treated at the scene by the London Ambulance Service. So what really happened at Heathrow?

According to the Metropolitan Police, it was probably "mass hysteria". Such outbreaks – variously called mass psychogenic disorder, mass sociogenic illness, epidemic hysteria or mass hysteria – are all types of social contagion.

They are typically characterised by the rapid spread, between members of a social group, of symptoms that have no apparent known cause and for which no physical infectious agent can be identified. The symptoms are real, but the trigger is psychological.

History is full of examples. In 1962, a textile factory in the US city of Spartanburg, South Carolina, shut down after dozens of workers reported rashes, numbness, nausea and fainting. Investigators suspected an insect in a shipment of cloth, but no evidence of such a cause was ever found.

Sociologists later concluded that, while an insect bite may have triggered the first case, the rest were probably psychogenic (something that originates from psychological factors rather than a physical cause).

Clusters of illness followed social ties, and the main predictors were background anxiety and stress – classic conditions for hysterical contagion.

Mass psychogenic effects have been recorded even further back in time. The infamous "dancing plague" of 1518 in Strasbourg began with a single woman dancing without pause. Within weeks, hundreds of others had joined her.

In a misguided attempt to help the victims "dance away their mania", officials in the town hired musicians. They erected an enormous stage for the merrymakers to help them burn off their energy. Unsurprisingly, this only attracted more people to the fray. At its height, 15 people a day were reported to be dropping dead until the dancing abruptly stopped.

Positive feedback loop

In their early stages, infectious diseases typically spread according to a mathematical mechanism known as a positive feedback loop. These are characterised by a signal that triggers a response – or series of responses – which ultimately ends up amplifying the original signal.

In an epidemic, infected individuals can come into contact and infect susceptible people, creating more infectious individuals who have the power to infect more people, and so on.

Something similar happens in the spread of social epidemics – only in these cases, the illness is spread by the infectious power of emotion, rather than something physical. The same mathematics that we use to describe the explosive onset of an infectious disease can be used to describe the viral outbreak of an idea.

Just because an illness is spread by an idea or emotion, rather than a virus or bacterium, it doesn't make that illness any less real for the communities or people affected.

Scientists have suggested that a hugely diverse range of social phenomena – from generosity to violence and from kindness to unemployment – may be socially contagious.

Some scientists have even come full circle by suggesting that diseases like obesity, which is typically considered to be a non-communicable disorder, may have a strong social component that allows it to spread like a contagious disease.

Whether teen pregnancy, for example, is genuinely socially contagious, as some scientists claim, is still hotly debated.

What is clear is that positive feedback loops can amplify an initially small quantity to unexpected magnitudes. For this reason, the impact of positive feedback is sometimes referred to as the snowball effect. A small amount of snow that begins rolling down a hillside picks up more snow as it rolls and increases in size.

The bigger it gets, the more snow it picks up, until the initially small snowball has gathered both size and pace. It seems that social contagion, mediated by a positive feedback loop, may have been the cause of the disruption at Heathrow airport.

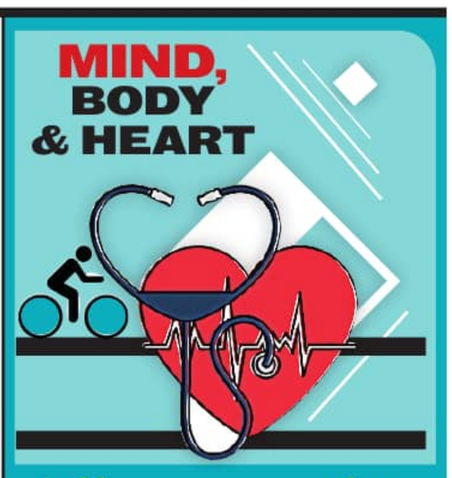
Of the 21 people assessed by ambulance staff, all but one were discharged at the scene. The Metropolitan Police even used the positive feedback loop terminology, suggesting the incident may have started with a single person falling ill and then "snowballed" from there.

The situation at Heathrow was quickly resolved, but when ideas spread like diseases, they're much harder to stop than actual germs. Underestimating an idea's potency, its longevity and its ability to enthral can lead us to misjudge or misunderstand how a situation will unfold.

One only has to look at the pervasive spread of disinformation throughout the COVID pandemic to see the damage that dangerously incorrect ideas – overstating the potential harms of effective vaccines, underplaying the risks of contracting COVID and falsely claiming the effectiveness of unproven treatments – can do.

The viral spread of such falsehoods through social media means they can reach far and wide in virtually no time – and are, consequently, extremely difficult to counter. We underestimate the snowballing of these pervasive myths at our peril.

(By Kit Yates, University of Bath, The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Dating red flags

Confusion
You match with someone on a dating app. Soon, you're staying up till 4 AM talking to them. You meet them on a date, and it's even better. But a few weeks in, and you'e not sleeping well, not thinking straight, and everything feels...intense. You can't help but wonder if it's chaos in a cute disguise?

Real chemistry
Real chemistry feels like a natural vibe. Think shared laughter, easy conversations, comfortable silences, all wrapped together in a magical feeling. There's excitement but also a sense of calm underneath it all. You don't feel like you're constantly chasing a high. It's mutual, respectful, and quite grounding.

Chaos is complicated
If your chemistry comes with confusion—unpredictable highs-and-lows, staying up till 3 am and talking, followed by radio silence the next day, or constantly trying to decode their 'okays', it's gotta be chaos. It's electrifying, sure, but also exhausting. If you're having to second-guess their intentions or your friends are sick of you asking them for advice, we hate to break it to you, but it's probably not chemistry and never will be.

The difference
Chemistry gets better with time. You fall into a routine, you look forward to spending more time with each other, and you meet their friends. Chaos? Not so much. It usually fizzles out and leaves you feeling emotionally exhausted.
Real chemistry makes you feel the butterflies, but in a safe, grounding way. It might not be as adrenaline-fueled as chaos, but it sure as hell won't wreck your peace.

—Femina

MIRRORLIGHTS

Warming climate to surge dengue cases by 76 pc across Asia and the Americas by 2050: Study

An increasing rise in global temperatures is set to drive cases of dengue by as much as 76 per cent across a large number of areas in Asia and the Americas by 2050, according to a new study.

The research, by a team of scientists from the universities of Washington, Stanford, and the US National Bureau of Economic Research, provides the first direct evidence that a warming climate has already increased the disease's toll.

"The effects of temperature were much larger than I expected," said lead author Marissa Childs, Assistant Professor of environmental health at the University of Washington.

"Even small shifts in temperature can have a big impact on dengue transmission, and we're already seeing the fingerprint of climate warming," she added.

The study analysed over 1.4 million observations of local dengue incidence across 21 countries in Central and South America and Southeast and South Asia, capturing both epidemic spikes and background levels of infection.

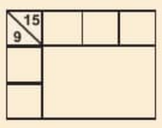
Dengue thrives in a "Goldilocks zone" of temperatures -- incidence peaks at about 27.8 degrees Celsius (82 degrees Fahrenheit), rising sharply as cooler regions warm but dropping slightly when already-hot areas exceed the optimal range.

As a result, some of the largest increases are projected for cooler, high-population regions in countries such as Mexico, Peru, and Brazil. Many other endemic regions will continue to experience larger, warming-fuelled dengue burdens. — IANS

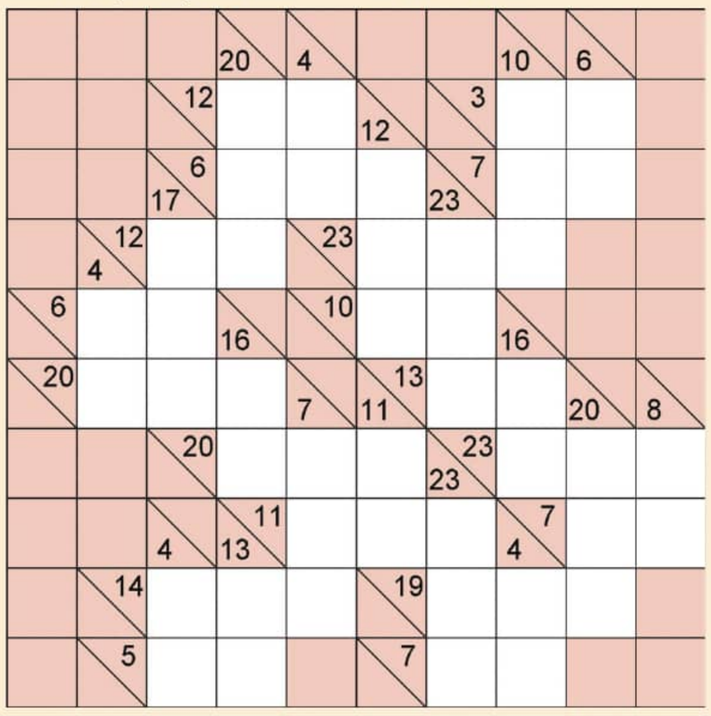
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

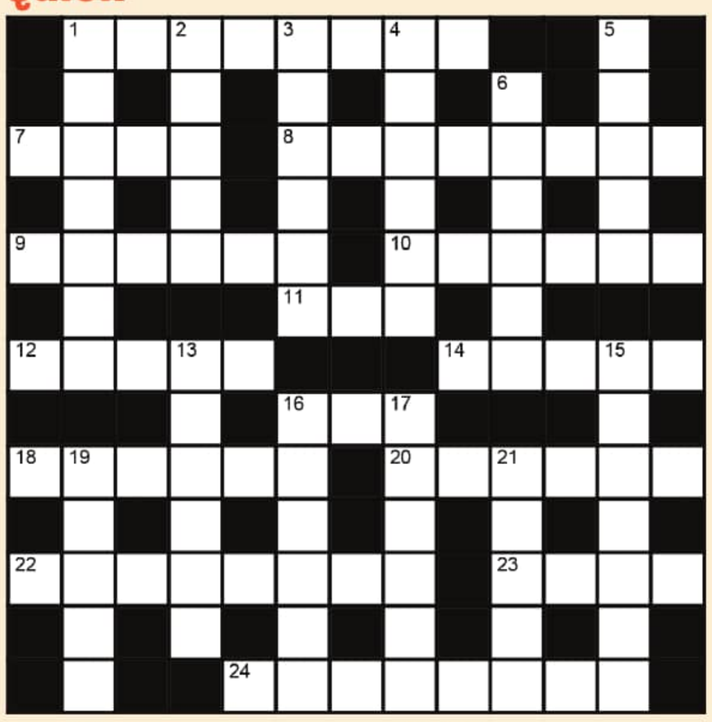
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Broadsword (8)
7 Lustrous material (4)
8 Rose up (8)
9 ___ City: Bangalore of course (6)
10 Loudspeaker system (6)
11 Printing measures (3)
12 Wet thoroughly (5)
14 Diaphanous (5)
16 2025 IPL champions (3)
18 Golf club (6)
20 Dotage (3,3)
22 Hired killer (8)
23 Warbled or intoned (4)
24 Mollifies or pacifies (8)

DOWN

1 Windy City of USA (7)
2 Posed a question? (5)
3 Nautical (6)
4 Proves to be false (6)
5 Dictation taker (5)
6 Turn white (6)
13 Retired Indian master blaster Virender ___ (6)
15 Machines (7)
16 Increases in strength or accelerates sharply? (4,2)
17 Jump or spring suddenly (6)
19 All __ ___ : confused? (2,3)
21 Cleans house (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS S

KBZ WASSZWWDAO IEP JLOO HCFDLK DCFI BLW ILWKEYZW EPU KCR EXELP LP E ULDDZC-ZPK JER.

Linemaro

Can I tie your shoes? I can't have you falling for someone else.

Mindchow

Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

Joke of the day

Chaos Theory is a new theory invented by scientists panicked by the thought that the public were beginning to understand the old ones

Loop

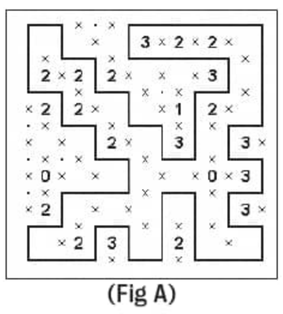
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

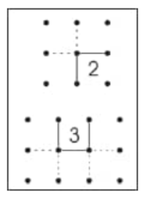
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

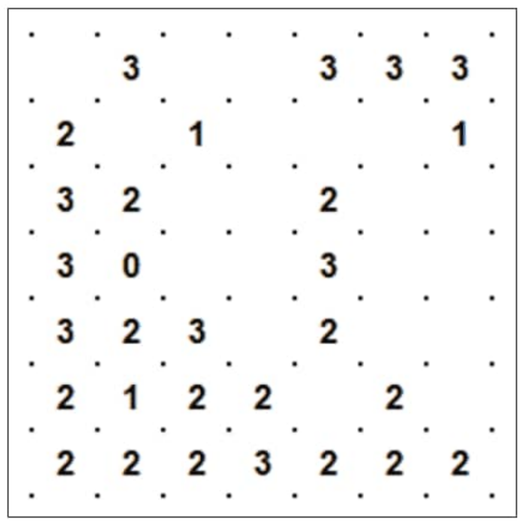
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



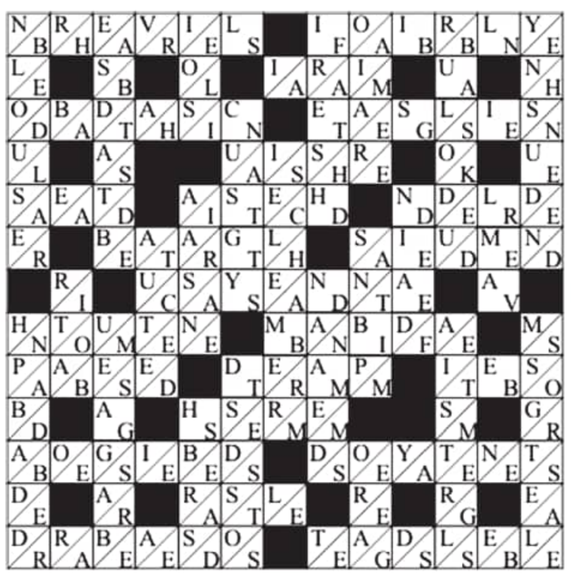
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



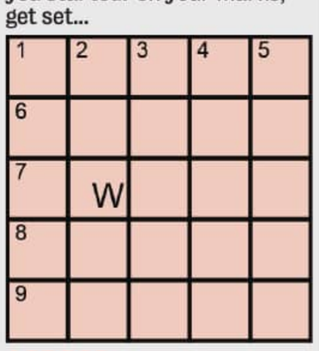
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 MC Hap; 6 Labor;
7 A weak; 8 St yes;
9 Or ash

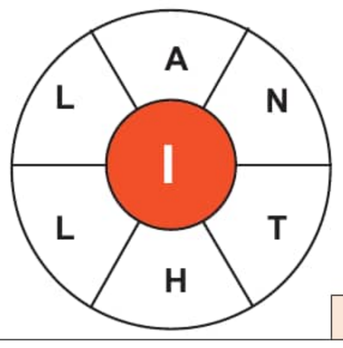
DOWN

1 Has CL; 2 Ow Hot (3,2);
3 A A Bay; 4 Me ark;
5 Spers

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

09 Average; **10** Good; **12** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

								2
6	1			8		4		7
		3			4		6	5
3		5		6				
		9	2		5	3		
				4		2		8
1	5		9			7		
9		6		7			8	3
2								

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 18

4 4 4 6

Medium = 1

5 6 7 7

Hard = 25

2 3 5 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

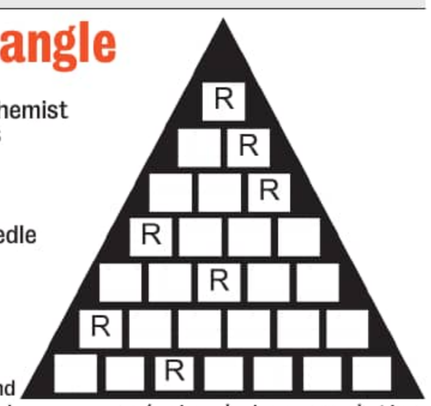
Differences: 1. Chair leg is missing. 2. Hand is moved. 3. Bow is moved. 4. Mouth is open. 5. Sleeve is shorter. 6. Girl's collar is missing.

Riddler

A man is running across a field at night clutching something in his arms as several other men pursue him. He looks back and sees they're getting closer. In a final burst of effort his pursuers catch up and bring him crashing to the ground. His pursuers stand over him but do not touch him or take what he was carrying. Why not? Who was the running man?

Alpha triangle

1 18th letter
2 Iridium for the chemist
3 Knightly address
4 Get up
5 Warning signal
6 Step down
7 Hyperdermic needle



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

GO AHEAD! I DARE YA TA HIT ME!
WOW! 'AT WAS A GOOD PUNCH!
THUD!
12-13
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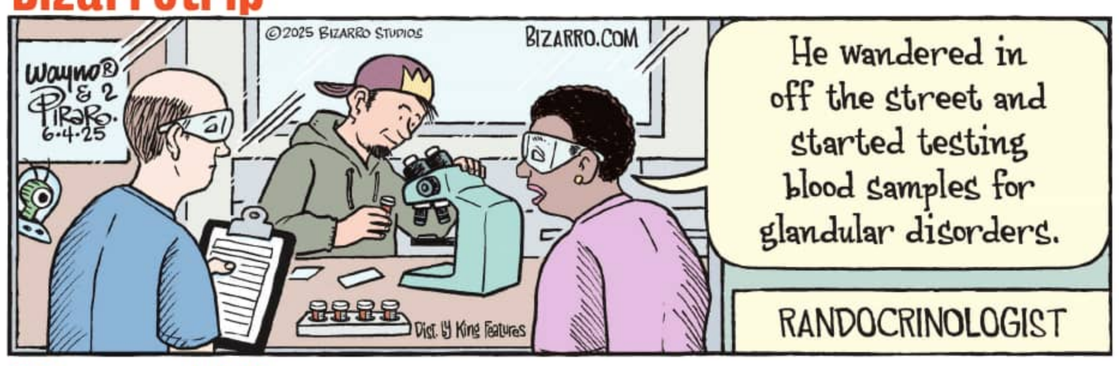
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip


©2025 BIZARRO STUDIOS
BIZARRO.COM
Wayno & PIRATE 6-4-25
He wandered in off the street and started testing blood samples for glandular disorders.
RANDOCRINOLOGIST
Dist. by King Features

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

HEART'S MIDDLE SCHOOL SURVIVAL GUIDE TIP #2: SIGN UP FOR AN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM.
I THINK I'M GOING TO SIGN UP FOR THE DRAMA CLUB.
IT'S HOW I'LL SECURE PRIME REAL ESTATE IN THIS YEAR'S YEARBOOK.
I MEAN, IF YOU'RE NOT IN THE YEARBOOK, DID YOU EVEN GO TO THE SCHOOL? DOUBTFUL.
I SUPPORT YOUR NEED FOR FAME, BUT SIGN-UPS FOR CLUBS WERE YESTERDAY.
NNNOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO
HEART OF THE CITY © 2020 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

LET'S SAY THE GARDEN NEEDS WATER AND THERE'S A SPRINKLING BAN IN EFFECT...
THAT'S WHEN THIS DEVICE HERE WILL LAUNCH A DRONE FILLED WITH SILVER IODIDE INTO A PASSING CLOUD...
CAUSING RAIN TO FALL THAT I CAN MEASURE IN MY JUMBO-EASY-READ RAIN GAUGE!
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
6-4
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts

WHAT'S SO VALUABLE IN THIS HOUSE YOU'RE GUARDING, EARL!?!
WELL, MOOCH... THERE'S MY SUPPER DISH.
AAH— DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT!
I CLEANED IT OUT HOURS AGO.
6-4
www.mutts.com
mutts.com

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

This birthday welcomes a phase of inner growth. Finances benefit from resourcefulness and avoiding impulsive spending. Career development flourishes with creativity and strategic thinking. Love strengthens through shared vulnerability and deeper understanding. Luck visits when you take thoughtful risks. Tip: Prioritize mindfulness, staying grounded will help you navigate challenges with grace and maintain emotional harmony.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

Organize priorities to maximize productivity. Unexpected obstacles may arise, but with focus and adaptability, you'll navigate them successfully. Strategic time management transforms challenges into opportunities for meaningful progress and growth.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Technology mishaps may frustrate you, turn to face-to-face interactions for better results. Welcome recognition instead of shying away from it. Own your accomplishments with pride and share your achievements confidently with others.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Progress may feel slow, but patience will reward you. If teamwork feels difficult, focus on independent tasks to maintain productivity. Allow space for natural alignment to occur in collaborative efforts.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Your best is enough. Resist overburdening yourself with unrealistic expectations. Seek quiet moments for rest and reflection. This balance restores strength, allowing you to handle responsibilities with renewed energy and calmness.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

If drained, pause. Focus on projects that bring you joy, boosting productivity naturally. Avoid suppressing emotions, acknowledge and work through them to regain clarity, peace, and a renewed sense of purpose today.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Emotional openness invites meaningful conversations. Share your thoughts with trusted people, deepening connections and gaining valuable support. At work, don't hesitate to seek help, collaboration can create breakthroughs and strengthen your projects.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Refresh your living space to reflect your vibrant personality. Avoid overspending, small changes create big impacts. Protect your energy by distancing from negativity, choosing peace over engaging with unnecessary conflicts or drama.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Don't let insecurities shape your interpretations. Minor delays don't mean rejection. Address unresolved issues in relationships directly. Facing them with courage creates clarity and nurtures healthier emotional connections for the future.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

Overthinking leads to negativity. Ground yourself through mindful breathing and trust the process. Explore partnerships or collaborations that align with your goals, increasing potential for shared success and mutual growth.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Think carefully before committing to major financial decisions. Social connections thrive, spend time nurturing friendships or creating new ones. Building these bonds brings joy, support, and lasting value to your personal journey.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

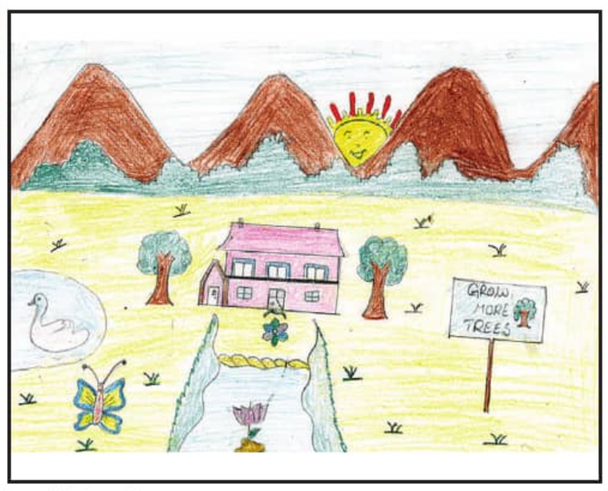
Avoid people or situations that deplete your energy. Express your desires openly to loved ones—they may be more supportive than expected. Communicating authentically strengthens bonds and lightens emotional burdens beautifully.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

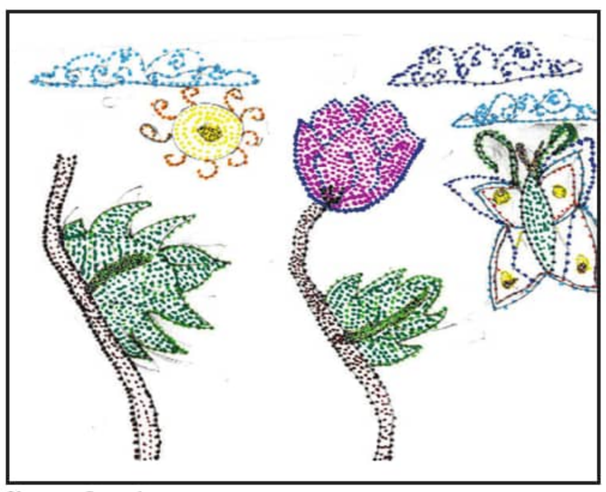
Release emotional baggage weighing you down. Forgiveness of yourself and others, creates space for healing and optimism. Embrace this chance for growth, focusing on lightness and personal evolution with a hopeful, open heart.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Preethi, Bengaluru



Shreyas, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

$(16^3 / (16^{3/4})) / 16 = 16^3/16 \times 1/16 = 16^3 / 16^2 = 16$

BULL'S EYE

ANTHILL, hall, hill, hilt, hint, lain, lilt, lint, nail, tail, thin, till

FAST FIVE

C	H	A	M	P
L	O	B	A	R
A	W	A	K	E
S	T	Y	E	S
S	O	A	R	S

RIDDLER

An American football player who was tackled.

STRIKE OUT

B	R	E	V	E	S	■	F	O	I	B	L	E	■	■
L	■	S	■	L	■	A	R	M	■	A	■	N	■	■
O	B	T	A	I	N	■	E	A	G	L	E	S	■	■
■	A	■	U	■	S	S	■	R	■	K	■	U	■	■
S	A	T	■	I	T	C	H	■	D	E	L	E	■	■
E	■	E	A	R	T	H	■	S	I	D	E	D	■	■
■	R	■	C	A	Y	E	N	N	E	■	A	■	M	■
N	O	M	E	N	■	M	A	I	D	A	■	M	■	■
A	B	E	D	■	T	E	M	P	■	I	B	O	■	■
B	■	A	■	H	E	R	E	■	M	■	■	R	■	■
B	O	G	I	E	S	■	D	O	Y	E	N	S	■	■
E	■	R	■	A	■	T	E	■	R	■	■	E	■	■
D	R	E	A	D	S	■	T	A	S	S	E	L	■	■

QUICK

■	A	■	A	P	P	E	A	S	E	S	■	■	■	■
■	E	■	■	G	■	U	■	C	■	T	■	E	■	■
A	S	S	A	S	S	I	N	■	S	U	N	G	■	■
T	■	W	■	V	■	U	■	O	L	D	A	G	E	■
M	A	S	H	I	E	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
D	O	W	S	■	E	■	■	■	S	H	E	E	R	■
G	■	■	■	■	■	E	M	S	■	C	■	■	■	■
G	A	R	D	E	N	■	T	A	N	N	O	Y	■	■
C	■	E	■	I	■	U	■	A	■	N	■	■	■	■
S	I	L	K	■	R	E	B	E	L	L	E	D	■	■
H	■	S	■	A	■	E	■	B	■	T	■	■	■	■
C	L	A	Y	M	O	R	E	■	■	S	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE

89. Working from top to bottom, numbers represent the sequence of Square Numbers, from 144 to 289, with the first digit left out.

QUOTE UNCODE

The successful man will profit from his mistakes and try again in a different way.

SUDOKU

5	7	4	6	9	1	8	3	2
6	1	2	5	8	3	4	9	7
8	9	3	7	2	4	1	6	5
3	2	5	8	6	9	7	4	1
4	8	9	2	1	5	3	7	6
7	6	1	3	4	9	2	5	8
1	5	8	9	3	6	7	2	4
9	4	6	1	7	2	5	8	3
2	3	7	4	5	8	6	1	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE

R, Ir, Sir, Rise, Siren, Resign, Syringe.

GO FIGURE

Easy
4 + 4 + 4 + 6 = 18
Medium
7 − 7 + 6 − 5 = 1
Hard
5 x 2 x 3 − 5 = 25

LOOP

KAKURO

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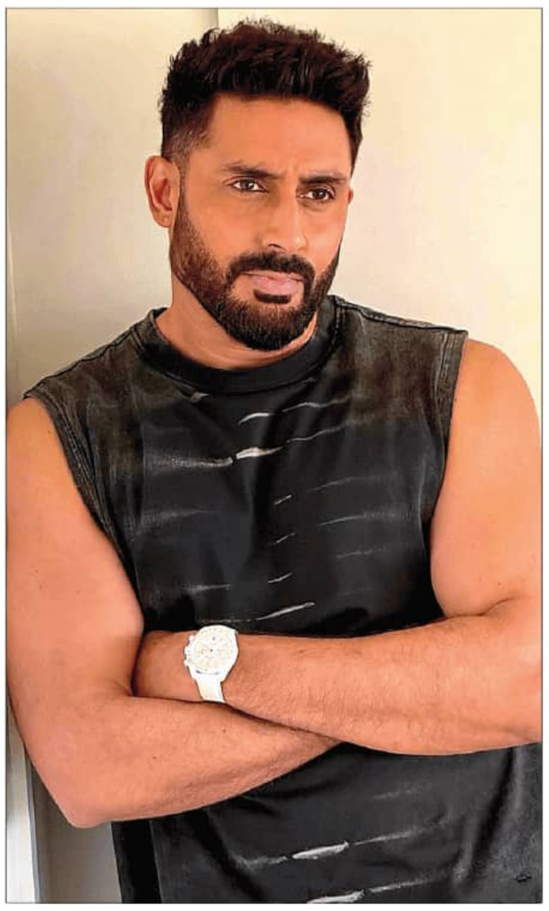
 # Nayanthara documentary case
The Madras HC grants time to Nayanthara docu maker over allegations of using clips from 'Chandramukhi' movie

Cracking new look



Abhishek Bachchan's new look has become the talk of the town. The actor's new avatar has surfaced on his social media. With that, everyone is wondering if this look is for Shah Rukh Khan's upcoming film 'King' and about the reason behind his transformation.

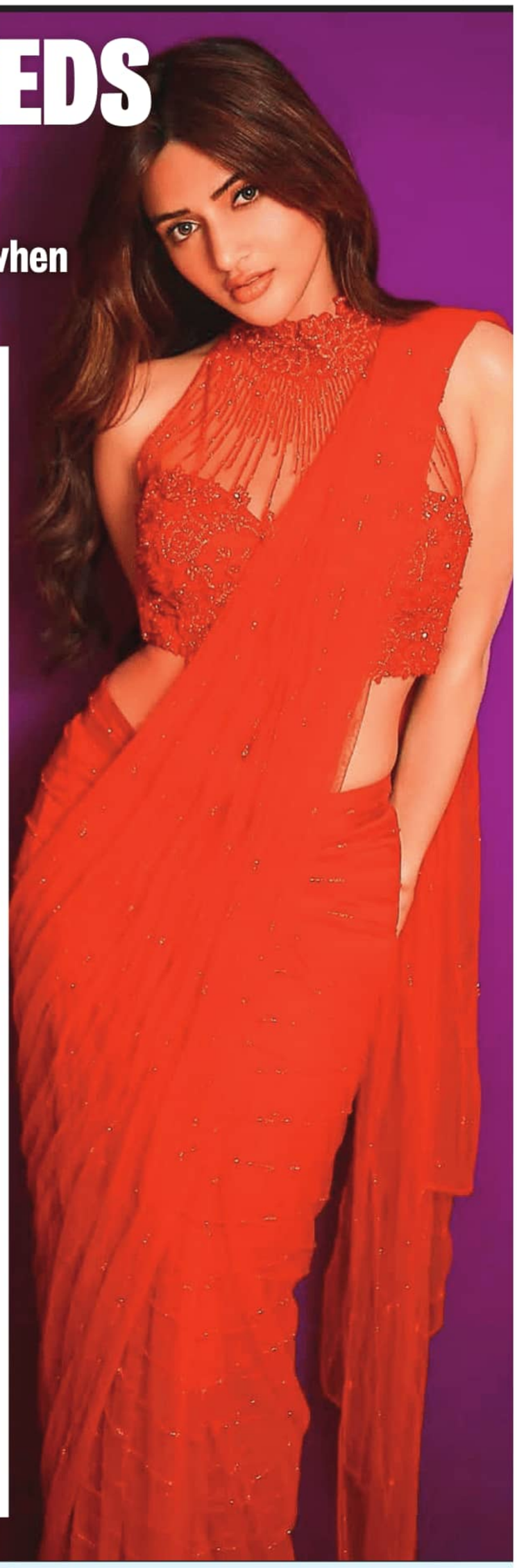
Celebrity stylist Aalim Hakim posted a few pictures of Abhishek Bachchan on his Instagram account. In the pictures, Jr. Bachchan can be seen leaning against a wall while looking into the camera intensely. The actor showed off his toned biceps and perfectly trimmed beard and short hairstyle. Sporting a tank top, the actor also posed with Aalim Hakim for a mirror selfie.

Karan Johar was super impressed with Abhishek Bachchan's look and hence, reposted Aalim's post on his Instagram. He wrote, "AB (heart emoji)! Looking so good." Not just KJo, actor Hrithik Roshan also dropped a comment on the post saying, "Arre wah (clapping hand emoticon). Looking amazing."

Fans were also quite impressed with Bachchan's look. **— ETimes**

WHO NEEDS A HUG?

Sreeleela's tip for when you are feeling low



Sreeleela is one of the busiest young stars in Indian cinema and is working on multiple projects, including 'Ustaad Bhagat Singh', 'Mass 'Jathara' as well as her Bollywood debut and more. Even if keeping her calendar tight, she takes out time to interact with her fans.

Recently, while she held a Q&A round with her fans, answering any 10 questions, a fan confessed to her about "feeling low". Sreeleela responded to them, sharing her concern and explaining how she deals with it when facing such moments.

In her reply, the 'kissik' star mentioned that in a similar situation, she would hug a family member and advised that music can be therapeutic. She also wished that they would get through it soon.

Her message read, "Whyyyyyy. I don't know how much I can help but Hug a family member that's what I do...You an angel... may you get through it very very soon. Music is therapeutic.."

Sreeleela has been in the news lately due to rumors surrounding her being in a possible romantic relationship with Bollywood's Kartik Aaryan. Recently, pictures of her celebrating Ganesh Pooja with the 'Luka Chuppi' actor at his Mumbai home went viral.

On the professional front, Sreeleela is set to appear in some of the most anticipated projects across industries. She will be seen in Pawan Kalyan's cop drama 'Ustaad Bhagat Singh', directed by Harish Shankar. In Tamil, she will be seen in 'Parasakthi, and her Hindi debut alongside Kartik Aaryan is expected to be a romantic drama directed by Anurag Basu, expected to release in 2026.

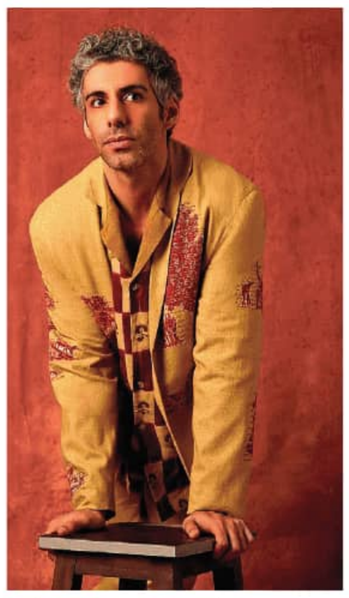
She was last seen in the Telugu romance drama, 'Junior'. **— ETimes**

James McAvoy attacked at bar

Actor James McAvoy was unexpectedly attacked by a stranger at a bar in Toronto on Monday night, while in the city for the premiere of his directorial debut, California Schemin', reported PEOPLE.

The 46-year-old actor, known for his roles in the X-Men franchise and Atonement, had attended the world premiere of his film at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) on September 6, along with his wife Lisa Liberati. Two days later, while spending an evening with the film's producers at Charlotte's Room bar, McAvoy was struck by a man who was reportedly being escorted out of the establishment. According to a source close to the actor, the man had been drinking heavily and was being escorted out of the bar. "James' back was to him and the man just punched him," the source said. Despite being caught off guard, McAvoy remained calm as bar staff quickly intervened. **—ANI**

Rustic & desi? Jim's game



Actor Jim Sarbh, who was recently seen in the film 'Inspector Zende', has expressed his desire to take on a rustic and desi kind of character.

The 'Padmaavat' actor shared that he is eager to explore roles that bring out a more earthy and grounded side of storytelling. When asked if he ever craves to play a very rustic, desi role—something along the lines of what Saif Ali Khan did in "Omkara," which went on to change his career graph—Jim Sarbh admitted that he, too, would love to take on such a character. "Yes, definitely. He's a brilliant actor." Further, when quizzed about the kind of rustic role he would like to take on, and if he had any particular character in mind, Jim said he hopes that the one defining rustic character he truly craves to play is still to come.

He explained, "No, there's nothing one particular character that I think to play and I even I also don't watch things very often and think, oh, I wish I got that role, you know, because again it's an interpretation with a director and an actor and I can't say that that's the one that I would like to do." **— IANS**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Dark side of story

Set another uniquely titled film is in the offing. Time Pass is the name of the movie and encouraged by the response to its first look poster, director Chethan Jodidhar unveiled the teaser recently.

Time Pass is Jodidhar's debut as a director. Going by the teaser, Time Pass seems to be aimed at throwing light on the darker side of Kannada film industry.

The teaser shows a director asking a prospective actress to be a little bit extra flexible while facing the camera. It contains a few scenes where male and female actors are in compromising positions.

"I wrote the script for this movie inspired by real incidents in the Kannada film industry. The movie revolves around a talented director with no opportunities, a good script writer but compelled to remain a ghost writer, a movie producer with no support from family and friends, and a hero without having the right opportunities at the right time. With this movie, I want to showcase the darker side of Kannada film industry," said Jodidhar.

The director said most of the actors are newcomers. "The movie does not focus on the hero or heroine. Its content is the hero. We gave importance to the script," he said. Time Pass is scheduled to arrive in theaters on October 17. It features Imran Pasha, Vaisiri K Gowda, Rathna Ram and others.

Trailer unveiled

The team of the much-awaited Kamal Sridevi organised a function to unveil the movie's trailer at MMB Legacy on Tuesday. Siddalinga Mahaswamiji of Siddaganga Mutt, Kalaburagi, graced the event and wished the movie's cast and crew good luck. Kamal Sridevi is bankrolled by BK Dhanalakshmi under the Swarnambika Pictures banner in association with Barn Swallow of actor Rajavardan. The trailer of the movie was unveiled by photographers Manu and Mokshendra.

Kamal Sridevi is scheduled for release on September 19. Sachin Cheluvarayaswamy, the son of Agriculture Cheluvarayaswamy, plays an innocent director in the movie while Sangeetha Bhat plays a sex worker. Appreciating the trailer, actor Mithra said the movie has turned out well. "I thank director Sunil for his hard work during the shooting. I play a swamiji in the movie," Mithra said. Rajavardan, who worked as a creative head and co-producer, said the movie is about seven characters that revolve around a woman character. "I congratulate Sangeetha Bhat who plays a sex worker in the movie. I hope she gets selected for the best actress award," Rajavardan said.